

**ENGL 104A/PN Introduction to Critical Analysis***3 credits, 3 hours lecture*

Introduces methods of critical analysis through a range of literature written in English, broadly conceived, from different historical periods and cultural locations. Not to be taken by students with 6 credits in approved junior English.

*Prerequisite: English 30 or 30-1 or equivalent*

*NOTE: Not to be taken by students with 6 credits in approved junior English*

**Instructor**

Ryan J Cox  
S 211C  
780-791-4837  
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**Office Hours**

Monday 11:00 – 12:00 am  
Tuesday 1:00 – 1:55 pm  
Thursday 10:00 – 12:00 am

or by appointment

**Hours of Instruction**

Wednesday 2:00 – 4:50 pm

**Required Resources**

[Snow Crash](#) Stephenson, Neal ISBN 978-0553380958  
[The Usagi Yojimbo Saga, Book 2](#) Sakai, Stan ISBN 978-1-61655-610-5

Additional materials—including a virtual coursepack—will be supplied via Moodle

**Course Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall be able to:

- Perform critical analysis of diverse texts using a variety of methods and approaches
- Communicate evidence-based interpretations of texts

**Evaluation**

Response Papers	20%
Proposal	10%
Essay 1	10%
Exam	30%
Research Essay	30%
Total	100%

*A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.*

**Response Essays**

Students are required to complete a series of 4 short essays of 2-3 pages each in which they explore that week's reading in greater detail. Response papers are to be written about the readings in advance of classroom discussion. These essays should advance an argument about the text. These four essays are to be written at your discretion throughout the semester, however, only one paper can be submitted at a time. Marked out of 5; handed in at the beginning of the first class of the week. These assignments will receive brief, targeted feedback. At least one Response must be submitted prior to Thanksgiving.

**Essay 1**

Students are expected to write a thesis-driven essay responding to one of the prompts provided. The paper should respond thoughtfully to the prompt, fully addressing the question being asked, while still demonstrating the student's ability to think both critically and innovatively. Students are NOT to make use of any text not specifically mentioned in the prompt they are answering; failure to follow this instruction may result in a failing grade. The paper is expected to be fully and accurately cited according to the rules of the most recent edition of the MLA Style Guide and conform to this course's Standards for Written Assignments. Additionally, students are expected to attach this assignment's rubric to the end of their paper when they submit. For additional guidance and eligible prompts, please refer to the assignment sheet provided.

**Research Essay**

You will be expected to write a detailed, well researched, thesis driven essay on a text or texts from the course. This essay should demonstrate your mastery of the text(s), your ability to effectively integrate your research into your writing, a familiarity with the current critical discourses surrounding your topic, and your ability to write at the university level. No paper that has not received approval at the proposal stage will be accepted for grading. Final Essay 6-8 pages.

**Proposal**

You will write a proposal where you will articulate what they intend to write about for your Research Essay and how you intend to go about it (this should include a sense of what your thesis will end up being). The proposal also includes an annotated bibliography in which you list no less than five good secondary sources with annotations indicating what they are and why they are useful to your project. This assignment will conform to MLA guidelines for research papers. Your proposal is subject to my approval; no essay that has not received my approval at the proposal stage will be accepted for grading. Proposal: 2pgs + Annotated Bibliography.

**Late Policy**

Late work will only be accepted until 3pm on the second day following the due date and it will be penalized at a rate of 10%/Day. If work is not submitted by 3pm on the second day following the due date, it will not be accepted and the student will receive a 0(zero) on the assignment. It should also be noted that late material will receive no feedback from the instructor. It is your responsibility to meet the due dates for the assigned material.

### Standards for Written Assignments

Learning how to follow house style sheets is one of the most important skills a writer can develop. To aid you in your quest to learn these skills I have provided a document entitled “Standards for Written Assignments” on Moodle. If your paper does not conform to these standards, expect to lose marks.

All work must be TYPED, double spaced, and have proper MLA documentation (unless instructed otherwise). Do NOT submit work to me by e-mail. All work must be submitted through the appropriate dropbox on moodle by the due date. For major assignments, you will be expected to also submit a paper copy to the instructor at the beginning of class on the due date. Please also understand that digital submission of the work will be treated as acknowledgement that the work is free from plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct and that the work being submitted is in full compliance with Keyano College’s Academic Policy and Procedure.

### Sensitivity, Respect, and Subject Matter

Some of the material we will be covering this semester is of a charged nature—whether in terms of form, content or politics. As critics, we cannot shy away from this material; however, we must understand that this material may generate a wide variety of reactions and opinions among our colleagues in the classroom. Thus, it is imperative that we remain aware of, and sympathetic to the reactions and opinions of our classmates. Respect and sensitivity will produce a stronger learning environment and generate better, more nuanced discussions.

Content warnings, where appropriate, will be provided on moodle in advance of class discussions.

### Pronoun Usage

Every student deserves the basic respect of being referred to by the appropriate pronouns. To that end, if there are particular pronouns that you wish to use please feel free to let me know either in person or via email. If I misgender you, please feel free to correct me and I will work to avoid doing so in the future. The pronouns that I use are he/his.

### Territorial Acknowledgement

Keyano College is located on Treaty 8 lands in Fort McMurray, AB. This area has been and continues to be home to the Cree, Dene, and Metis peoples. As a scholarly community we recognize that we are treaty people and work to live up to the responsibilities that come with that.

### Grading System

Descriptor	Alpha Grade	4.0 Scale	Percent	Rubric for Letter Grades
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	

<b>Progression</b>	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
Poor	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
<b>Minimum Pass</b>	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

**Proposed Schedule of Topics**

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments	Notes
Week 1 (A31-S2)	Learning to Read Critically 1: Introduction	Pound, Parker		No Class August 29 & 30, (Orientation Day)
Week 2 (S5-S9)	Learning to Read Critically 2: Form And Difference	Blake, Rossetti		No Class Sept. 5 (Labour Day)
Week 3 (S12-S16)	Learning to Read Critically 3: Questions, Answers, and Writing about Writing	Eliot, Lubrin		
Week 4 (S19-S23)	Learning to Read Critically 4: The Poetry as Protest and Settler Colonialism	Belcourt, Vermette,		
Week 5 (S26-S30)	Learning to Read Critically 5: Un-Settling the Text	Abel	Essay 1 (Sept 28)	No Class Sept 30 (Truth and Reconciliation Day)
Week 6 (O3-O7)	Reading Short Stories: Chilling Gothic Tales for your Autumn Afternoons	Oates, "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?"		
Week 7 (O10-O14)	Reading Short Stories 2	Munro, "Fits"		No Class October 10, (Thanksgiving)
Week 8 (O17-O21)	Reading Film: Boredom, the Perfect Murder, and film as Form and Text	Wilder, <i>Double Indemnity</i>	Proposal (Oct 19)	
Week 9 (O24-O28)	The Samurai and its Translations 1: Reading Form, Genre, and across Cultures	Kurosawa, <i>Yojimbo</i> (film)		

Week 10 (O31-N4)	The Samurai and its Translations 2	Sakai, Usagi Yojimbo		
Week 11 (N7-N11)	Reading the Novel: Hiro Protagonist and YT take on the Cable Company and win?	Stephenson, <i>Snow Crash</i>		Last Day to Withdraw: Nov 8 No Class Nov 9- 11 (Remembrance Day/Reading Days)
Week 12 (N14-N18)	Reading the Novel 2	Stephenson, cont'd		
Week 13 (N21-N24)	The Synthetic Moment: Experiments in Reading Popular Culture	Readings this week will be informal and done in class. If there is a text that you wish to apply the techniques and principles we've been learning, please suggest it on Teams	Research Essay (Nov 23)	
Week 14 (N28-D2)	Review			Dec 5, Last Day of Classes
Week 15-16				

*Schedule subject to change*

## Performance Requirements and Student Services

### Student Responsibilities

As a student, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the required forms, including the Withdraw Course or Program or a Change of Registration form. Please refer to the important dates listed in the Academic Schedule in the [Keyano College credit calendar](#). The Keyano College credit calendar also has information about Student Rights and the Code of Conduct. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and the Code of Conduct Policies.

### Student Attendance

Class attendance is helpful for two reasons: First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is an excellent way to keep informed of matters relating to the course administration (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your learning and performance in this course. It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Absent students are responsible for the material covered in those classes, and students must ensure they are ready for their next class, including completing any missed assignments and notes.

### Academic Misconduct

Students are considered responsible adults and should adhere to the principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty takes many forms:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as their own,
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating),
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work,
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications,
- The willful distortion of results or data,
- Substitution in an examination by another person,
- Submitting unchanged work for another assignment, and
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies. To ensure your understanding of plagiarism, you may be required to complete an online tutorial and submit the certificate of completion.

**Online Learning**

Technology and internet connectivity will impact your online learning experience. You may be required to watch online videos, take online quizzes, or participate in live online classes. Live/virtual courses will be hosted in Microsoft Teams or Zoom. For all course delivery types, you will access your course resources on Keyano’s learning management system: Moodle (iLearn). Login in using your [Keyano username and password](#). Keyano College operates in a Windows-based environment, and having access to the correct tools for online learning is essential. Here's a list of recommended system requirements.

**Internet Speed**

Minimum download and upload speeds of 10 Mbps. Recommended download speeds of 25 Mbps and upload speeds of 10 Mbps (if you are sharing your internet at home). You can check your internet speed with [Speedtest by Ookla](#).

**Computer System Requirements**

Microsoft Windows	Apple (Mac)
<p><b>Minimum Requirements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Windows 10 Operating System or above</li> <li>2. 4GB of RAM</li> <li>3. 10GB available hard drive storage space                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Install the Microsoft Office 365 suite (~3GB) *</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Microphone, webcam, and speakers (All modern laptops have these three accessories built-in.)</li> <li>5. Windows has built-in anti-virus/malware software. It is essential to install system updates to keep your device secured regularly.</li> </ol> <p>*<a href="#">Microsoft Office 365</a> is free to Keyano students.</p>	<p><b>Minimum Requirements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mac Operating System 10.14 (Monterey) or above</li> <li>2. 4GB of RAM</li> <li>3. 10GB available hard drive storage space                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Install the Microsoft Office 365 suite (~3GB) *</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Microphone, webcam, and speakers (All modern laptops have these three accessories built-in.)</li> <li>5. Mac has built-in anti-virus/malware software. It is important to install system updates to keep your device secured regularly.</li> </ol> <p>*<a href="#">Microsoft office 365</a> is free to Keyano students.</p>

<p><b>Recommended Upgrades</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8GB of RAM</li> <li>• Regularly back up or synchronize your files, locally or with a cloud-based storage option.</li> </ul> <p>OneDrive is the cloud-based storage option free to students after the setup of KeyanoMail and Microsoft 365.</p>	<p><b>Recommended Upgrades</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8GB of RAM</li> <li>• Regularly back up or synchronize your files locally or with a cloud-based storage option.</li> </ul> <p>OneDrive is the cloud-based storage option free to students after the setup of KeyanoMail and Microsoft 365.</p>
<p>Tablets, iPads and Chromebooks are <b>not</b> recommended: they may not be compatible with the testing lockdown browsers and Microsoft Office 365.</p>	

### Specific Department Requirements

Business and OA programs require Windows 10. Other programs may utilize Windows-based tools as well.

### Computer Software

Students have access to Microsoft Office 365 and Read&Write for free using Keyano credentials.

### Recording of Lectures and Intellectual Property

Students may only record a lecture if explicit permission is provided by the instructor or Accessibility Services. Even if students have permission to record a lecture or lecture materials, students may not share, distribute, or publish any of the lectures or course materials; this includes any recordings, slides, instructor notes, etc., on any platform. Thus, no student is allowed to share, distribute, publish or sell course-related content without permission. It is important to recognize that the Canadian Copyright Act contains provisions for intellectual property. The [Academic Integrity Policy](#) provides additional information on Keyano College's expectations from students as members of the intellectual community.

### ITS Helpdesk

If you have issues with your student account, you can contact the ITS Helpdesk by emailing [its.helpdesk@keyano.ca](mailto:its.helpdesk@keyano.ca) or calling 780-791-4965.

**COVID-19** We are subject to provincial, and municipal bylaws, and policies. These decisions may change pending further direction from the Alberta Chief Medical Officer, Alberta Health Services, and other provincial guidelines. To protect yourself and others, get immunized, wash your hands, wear a mask, keep your distance (2m/6 ft) and remain home when feeling unwell. For the most recent COVID-19 information, please refer to [albertahealthservices.ca/COVID](http://albertahealthservices.ca/COVID).

**Specialized Supports** The Student Services Department is committed to Keyano students and their academic success. There is a variety of student support available at Keyano. All student services are available during Keyano business hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The College is closed on statutory holidays. If you require support outside of regular business hours, please inform the support service team, and they will do their best to accommodate your needs.

**Accessibility Services** provides accommodations for students living with disabilities. Students with documented disabilities or who suspect a disability can meet with an Access Strategist to discuss their current learning barriers and possible accommodations. Students who have accessed accommodations in the past are encouraged to contact the department to request accommodations for the following semester. Please note that requesting accommodations is a process and requires time to arrange.

Contact the department as soon as you know you may require accommodations. For accessibility supports and disability-based funding, please book an appointment by emailing us at: [accessibility.services@keyano.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@keyano.ca).

Accessibility Services also provides individual and group learning strategy instruction for all students and technology training and support to enhance learning. You can meet with an Access Strategist to learn studying and test-taking strategies. In addition, you can schedule an appointment with the Assistive Technology Specialist to explore technology tools for learning. Book an appointment today by emailing: [accessibility.services@keyano.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@keyano.ca)

**Wellness Services** offers a caring, inclusive, and respectful environment where students can access free group and individual support to meet academic and life challenges. Mental Health Coordinators provide a safe and confidential environment for you to seek help with personal concerns. Our Wellness Navigator offers support with basic needs such as housing, financial and nutritional support, and outside referrals when needed. Wellness Services welcomes students to participate in group sessions that address topics including mindfulness and test anxiety throughout the academic year. Individual appointments can be made by emailing [wellness.services@keyano.ca](mailto:wellness.services@keyano.ca).

**Library Services:** provides students with research, information, and education technology supports as they engage in their studies. Library staff are available to help you online and in person throughout the semester. Librarians offer individual and small group appointments booked using the online [Book A Librarian calendar](#). The Library also provides research and subject guides to help you with your studies. To view a subject or course-specific guide, check out the complete list of online [Subject Guides](#). To start your research and access citation guides (APA, MLA, Chicago, or IEEE), visit the [Research Help page](#). The Library's collections (including print and online materials) are searchable using OneSearch. The Library offers a Loanable Technology collection to support students accessing and using technology. For an up-to-date list of technology available for borrowing, visit the Library's [Loanable Technology webpage](#). For a detailed list of library resources and services, go to [www.keyano.ca/library](http://www.keyano.ca/library). For all inquiries, please email [askthelibrary@keyano.ca](mailto:askthelibrary@keyano.ca) or [chat with us online](#).

**Academic Success Centre:** The Academic Success Centre at Keyano College (CC-119) provides **free** academic support services to registered students, such as tutoring, writing support, facilitated study groups, workshops, and study space. Academic Content Specialists are available in Mathematics, Science, Trades, Power Engineering, Upgrading/College Prep, Human Services, English, Humanities, and more. Students are encouraged to visit the Academic Success Centre to discuss study strategies and academic concerns. For additional information, please email [Academic.Success@keyano.ca](mailto:Academic.Success@keyano.ca).